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International Gallup Survey Explores Key Goals in Life

PRINCETON, N.J. — Considerable agreement is found among the people of eight nations that the most important goals in life are centered around one's family and security, with all basic needs provided.

People surveyed (by Gallup International in recent months) were shown a list of five goals in life and asked which one they considered the most important.

In all countries surveyed the most important goals in life were a family life: "a life completely centered on my family" and a secure life: "making certain that all basic needs and expenses are provided for."

Family life was most important in Germany (54%), England (53%), Nigeria (41%), USA (39%), and Canada (35%), while a secure life was most important in Japan (43%), Australia (38%), and New Zealand (36%).

Of less importance were a prosperous life: "having a good life and being able to afford the 'good things' in life," an exciting life: "a stimulating, active life," and an important life: "a life of achievement that brings respect and recognition."

Most Important Goal in Life

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Secure	38	36	30	15	27	31	43	16
Family	32	28	35	54	39	53	29	41
Prosperous	13	12	14	12	15	7	8	24
Exciting	9	13	11	16	7	5	10	3
Important	6	6	8	3	9	2	9	16
Undecided	2	5	2	-	3	2	1	-

Legalization of Marijuana

People surveyed were asked: *In your opinion should the smoking of marijuana be made legal or remain illegal?* The majority of people in all countries surveyed believed marijuana smoking should remain illegal.

Australians were the most in favor of the legalization of marijuana (24%), followed by Americans (21%) then Canadians (20%) and New Zealanders (17%). Least support for the legalization of marijuana came from Japan (3%) followed by West Germany (5%) and Nigeria (9%).

Marijuana smoking should be:

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Illegal	68	71	73	86	74	78	96	80
Legal	24	17	20	5	21	16	3	9
Undecided	8	12	7	9	5	6	1	11

Religion in Government Schools

When asked: *Do you think religion should or should not be taught once a week in government schools?* responses ranged from 90% in favor in Nigeria to 75% opposed in Japan.

In most of the eight countries surveyed the majority felt religion should be taught at least once a week in government schools. In the USA opinion was divided 47% to 46% in favor of religious education.

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Should	73	60	66	68	47	75	21	90
Should not	19	27	28	10	46	19	75	5
Undecided	8	13	6	22	7	6	4	5

Women Run Their Homes, Men Run the Country

People surveyed were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement "women should take care of running their homes and leave running the country to men."

Support for the idea that "women should take care of running their homes and leave running the country to men" ranged from a low 12% among New Zealanders to a majority of 51% among the Japanese. The vast majority of people in Western countries surveyed disagreed with this stereotyped view of a woman's role.

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Agree	18	12	15	19	20	18	51	39
Disagree	78	81	82	58	75	78	48	55
Undecided	4	7	3	23	5	4	1	6

New Things and New Ideas

People surveyed were asked about their attitudes to what is new. The question was asked as follows:

Some people are attracted to new things and new ideas, while others are more cautious about such things. What's your own attitude to what's new?

Of all the people surveyed, Germans and Americans were most attracted to new things (50%, and 49% respectively), followed by Nigerians (39%) and Canadians (30%).

Least likely to be attracted to new things were the Japanese (18%), New Zealanders (22%), Australians (26%) and the British (26%).

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Attracted	26	22	30	50	49	26	18	39
Depends	35	43	34	41	37	34	61	26
Cautious	38	35	35	9	13	37	21	29
Undecided	1	*	1	*	1	3	*	6

* Less than one percent.

Social Issues and Trends

When asked to describe their own general viewpoint with regard to social issues and social trends in their country, the most frequently given response was "middle-of-the-road." The exception was in Nigeria where more people considered themselves "traditional" (40%) than "middle-of-the-road" (20%) or "progressive" (29%).

In most countries similar numbers of people considered their viewpoint to be "traditional" as "progressive."

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Traditional	24	23	28	28	32	24	28	40
Middle-of-the-road	48	50	44	51	38	54	50	20
Progressive	26	27	28	21	30	22	22	29
Don't know	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	11

Raw Deal out of Life

When asked: *Do you generally feel you get a raw deal out of life?* the vast majority of people in all countries surveyed (except Nigeria) said no.

The feeling that one gets a raw deal out of life was more prevalent in Nigeria than anywhere else, with 49% feeling they got a raw deal out of life, 40% saying no, and 11% undecided. Americans were among those least likely to report that they "got a raw deal out of life."

	Australia	New Zealand	Canada	West Germany	USA	England	Japan	Nigeria
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No	83	87	78	70	84	74	89	29
Yes	12	8	17	12	12	23	10	58
Undecided	5	5	5	18	4	3	1	13

Australians Favor Women as Priests

A majority of Australians favor women being ordained as priests or ministers of religion, the Morgan Gallup Poll finds.

This finding comes from asking an Australia-wide cross-section of 2,344 people aged 14 and over on July 4-5 if they favored or opposed women as priests or ministers of religion.

Fifty-nine percent (up 4 percentage points since 1984) of Australians were in favor, 18% opposed and 23% were undecided.

Anglicans were more in favor (69%) than Roman Catholics (47%) on this issue.

Fifty-four percent of men were in favor of women being ordained as priests or ministers, 19% were opposed and 27% were undecided. Sixty-four percent of women were in favor of women being ordained, 16% were opposed and 20% were undecided.

The following table shows responses by the religion of respondents.

					Religion of Respondent			
	1980	1983	1984	1987	Anglican	Roman Catholic	Other Christian	No Religion
Favor	54%	57%	55%	59%	69%	47%	62%	57%
Oppose	20	17	20	18	10	32	19	6
Undecided	26	26	25	23	21	21	19	37
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

48% Gave Pope John Paul II 'Highly Favorable' Vote

A plurality of Americans gave Pope John Paul II a "highly favorable" rating prior to his trip to the United States. This rating is based on the top two positions (plus 5 and plus 4) on a 10-point attitude scale, called the Stapel Scalometer, which measures intensity of feeling, both positive and negative.

The table below shows the trend in the Pope's positive ratings since December, 1978. His tour of the U.S. in 1979 clearly boosted his rating, which he sustained in subsequent measurements. The June, 1981 figure may reflect, in part, sympathy for the Pope following the attempt on his life.

The latest figure is based on a survey conducted in July, 1987. As seen below, Catholic opinion after holding firm between 1979 and 1984, has dropped sharply since 1984. Protestant views have been on a general downtrend since 1981.

Pope John Paul II
(Plus 5, plus 4 ratings)

	National	Catholic	Protestant
	%	%	%
1987 - July	48	69	40
1984 - January	55	82	48
1982 - June	54	80	46
1981 - June	65	83	60
(Assassination attempt)			
1980 - May	59	85	51
1979 - October	56	80	47
(Tour of U.S.)			
1979 - September	48	73	38
1979 - June	52	70	45
1978 - December	47	67	41

By way of comparison, here are the "highly favorable" ratings given previous Popes:

	National	Catholic	Protestant
	%	%	%
POPE PAUL VI (1963-1978)			
1977 - May	37	66	26
1976 - May	25	48	19
POPE JOHN XXII (1958-1963)			
1960 - Sept.	32	76	16
- Aug.	32	75	17
- July	34	77	19
- May	34	77	20

NOTE: Post-visit ratings of the Pope will be presented in the November Emerging Trends.

Four Reasons Why You Should Order *RELIGION IN AMERICA '87*

1. Religion in America, 1987 is an invaluable source of information on religious beliefs and practices in the U.S., much of which is not available elsewhere.
2. It provides national and regional norms against which the clergy can match their own churches or snyagogues in terms of religious belief, practice, knowledge and stewardship.
3. It provides new and exciting information that can be developed into sermons or articles on the state of religion.
4. It provides data indispensable for future planning:
   What are the new religious interests of church members and non-members?
   Where does the public think churches are falling short?

Teens See Drug Abuse As No. 1 Problem

Teens believe drug abuse among their peers is their greatest concern, according to the latest Gallup Youth Survey.

Although teen drug use has been declining in the past decade, 54% of the teens — twice as many as 10 years ago — named drug abuse their No. 1 concern.

Alcohol abuse is the second most frequently mentioned problem, with teen concern rising from 7% in 1977 to 12% in 1987.

Current teen concerns focus largely upon substance abuse and social problems. Teen concerns of 10 years ago, such as the "generation gap," unemployment or economic problems, and "finding oneself," seem to have almost disappeared. In 1977, one teen in five (20%) named getting along with parents as the major problem of the teen generation, but now only 2% cite it as a major issue.

Only 3% of the teens now see unemployment or economic issues as major problems facing their generation. By comparison, in 1983, 16% were concerned about unemployment, 3% named career doubts and uncertainties, and 2% cited economic issues as their major problems.

Over all, one teen in 10 (11%) names teen-age pregnancy as a leading problem. Among young women, however, 19% feel it is a major issue. Greatest concern about the problem is found among black teens, with one in four (24%) naming teen-age pregnancy as the most important problem facing people their age. As recently as in 1985, only 3% of all teens mentioned teen-age pregnancy as a leading problem.

AIDS — acquired immune deficiency syndrome — makes its first appearance on the teens' list of most important problems, with 5% of the teens expressing concern about the impact the condition may have on their generation.

Accompanying concerns about substance abuse and sexually related problems is an increase in the feeling that peer pressures are the major problem facing teens today. Peer pressures are seen as a major issue today by one teen in 10 (10%), compared with only 5% who cited them as a major problem in 1977.

Teen-age suicide has been widely discussed in the media in recent years, but only 2 to 3% of teens have named it as a most important problem over the past three years.

Mentioned only 1% each by teens as major issues facing their generation are school problems, financing college education, and fear of war.

Here is how the question was asked:

What do you think is the biggest problem facing people your age?

The findings reported today are based on telephone interviews with a representative national cross section of 509 teenagers, 13 through 17, conducted in the period of June 21-27, 1987.

Biggest Problem Facing Teens

	1987	1985	1983	1977
Drug abuse	54%	40%	35%	27%
Alcohol abuse	12	14	10	7
Teen-age pregnancy	11	3	–	–
Peer pressures	10	8	8	5
AIDS	5	–	–	–
Getting along with parents	2	2	5	20
Problems in growing up	2	5	1	6
Unemployment	2	8	16	6
Teen-age suicide	2	3	–	–
School problems	1	4	5	3
Financing college	1	3	1	–
Fear of war	1	2	4	–
Economic problems	1	3	2	3
Career uncertainties	–	–	3	3
Miscellaneous	5	7	5	12
Don't know	8	13	18	14
	117*	115*	113*	106*

*More than 100 percent due to multiple responses.

New Book Paints Surprising Portrait of American Catholics

- Catholics say by a 3 to 1 margin that "divorced Catholics should be allowed to remain in the Church."
- Support for a married priesthood is quite strong among Catholics (who accept it by a 2-to-1 margin).
- While Catholics are "conservative" on some key social issues, they clearly come down on the "liberal" side of other key social issues — most notably women's rights, gun control, and civil rights for minorities and homosexuals.

These are among the provocative findings in *The American Catholic People*, written by George Gallup, Jr. and Jim Castelli and published by Doubleday. Drawn from The Gallup Organization's data base, the book provides eye-opening insights into the 28% of American adults who identify themselves as Catholics

Who are the American Catholics? Twenty-nine percent are under the age of 30; 16% are Hispanic, while 3% are black and another 3% classify themselves as non-white. Sixty-eight percent are parents; three out of four live in urban areas; and 55% identify themselves as politically right-of-center.

Gallup and Castelli compare this growing and increasingly influential population to the Protestant majority on a number of vital issues. They find that Catholics are more liberal than Protestants in their stance on the cutting of the defense budget and on the allocation of funds for social programs. Catholics will also be a major force for reduced military spending, moderation in foreign policy, and progress in the control of nuclear arms.

The American Catholic People: Their Beliefs, Practices, and Values. George Gallup, Jr. & Jim Castelli. February 20, 1987. $15.95 (Hardcover). Doubleday and Company, Inc., 245 Park Ave., New York, NY 10167. Contact: Diane Speicher (212) 984-7096

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